



# ALL THINGS NEW

---

STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

PARISH WORKBOOK  
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL - ST. LOUIS CITY

# ABOUT YOUR PARISH WORKBOOK

- This parish workbook is designed to equip pastors and key parish leaders with data about the Archdiocese of St. Louis, your local planning area, and your parish.
- The data contained in this parish workbook has been gathered over the past twenty years from your parish and other parishes across the Archdiocese.
- This parish workbook should be used as an internal planning tool to help shape your reflections on the current strengths and opportunities for future growth of ministry and evangelization in the future.
- To help ensure accuracy of information, parishes are requested to limit the distribution of the information contained in this parish workbook to the pastor, parish staff, key parish leaders, and key advisory bodies. Information summarizing this data will be made available in the fall 2022 for parishioners across the Archdiocese.



# ALL THINGS NEW PRAYER

Heavenly Father, you sent your Son Jesus as the first Evangelizer of the Good News.

Send forth the power of the Holy Spirit upon the Church of St. Louis and grant us the gift of true discernment so we may do your will in all things.

Help us be totally free to follow wherever you lead us, totally generous to be good stewards of your many gifts, and totally passionate to suffer all in order to be more closely united to you.

Commissioned by your Son and empowered by the Spirit to “Go and Make Disciples of all Nations,” strengthen us by the power of your grace as we bring the Good News of Salvation into the lives of all those we touch, so that individual hearts and all of society may be converted to you and all things might be made new.

Inspired by the apostolic zeal of previous generations, as we begin the process of planning for the future, may our only desire be to do all things for the greater glory and honor of your name and for the good of your people in the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



## GUIDING TEXTS

### REV. 21:3-5

*I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them.*

*He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, the old order has passed away.”*

*The one who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.” Then he said, “Write these words down, for they are trustworthy and true.”*





## GUIDING TEXTS EVANGELII NUNTIANDI (#18)

*For the Church, evangelizing means bringing the Good News into all the strata of humanity, and through its influence transforming humanity from within and making it new: "Now I am making the whole of creation new."*

*But there is no new humanity if there are not first of all new persons renewed by Baptism and by lives lived according to the Gospel.*







## GUIDING TEXTS JOY OF THE GOSPEL (#27)

*I dream of a “missionary option”, that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church’s customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today’s world rather than for her self-preservation.*



# STRATEGIC PASTORAL PLANNING INITIATIVE OUTCOME

**Develop a plan that will make all things new enabling a vibrant Catholic presence in every square mile of the Archdiocese of St. Louis for the next century**

## **A Renewed Church**

Gospel renewal in our parishes, schools, and other ministry efforts

## **A Renewed Mission**

Enhance our evangelization efforts to those on the margins of society

## **A Vibrant Future**

Secure a vibrant future for the Church of St. Louis



# STRATEGIC PASTORAL PLANNING INITIATIVE

## GOALS

1. **Unceasing Prayer.** Engage all individual Catholics to reflect upon the need for Jesus Christ in their daily lives and call upon the Holy Spirit to guide our actions to fully share the love of the Lord in every encounter.
2. **Unifying Vision.** Articulate and implement a vision for evangelization that empowers and expects every baptized Catholic to spread the Gospel message and ensures a Catholic presence in every square mile of the Archdiocese of St. Louis through missionary outreach, parish and school footprint, and dynamic leadership.
3. **Intentional Stewardship.** Define and develop a plan that will appropriately reallocate resources throughout the Archdiocese of St. Louis that will be supported by structures at the diocesan, parish, school, and agency levels to ensure long-term viability and vibrancy of the Catholic presence.





# ALL THINGS NEW TIMELINE





# ALL THINGS NEW

---

STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

OUR DIOCESE  
ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

# ABOUT OUR DIOCESE

- The Archdiocese of St. Louis is 178 parishes encompassing the City of St. Louis and 10 surrounding counties – a large and diverse territory: urban, suburban and rural.
- Our local church has been declining for several decades as older Catholics die and there are insufficient number of young Catholics to take their place.
- This is best exemplified by the significant decline in the number of births and baptisms in our diocese.
- As our Catholic population has moved from the city to the near suburbs and from the near suburbs to the farther out suburbs, this has resulted in too few priests in large parishes and too many priests in small parishes.
- Our diocesan priests are aging and number of priests to serve our Catholic population is declining.
- Over the past decade, Mass attendance has been on a steady decline. The long-term implications of COVID are unknown, but the rebound in Mass attendance from 2020 to 2021 still leaves us 25% below pre-COVID levels.



# OUR TERRITORY FOR EVANGELIZATION



# OUR CATHOLIC POPULATION CONTINUES TO DECLINE

- In 2021, the number of Catholics in the Archdiocese of St. Louis dipped below 500,000 for first time since the 1960s.
- We have more baptisms than funerals and we have nearly 1,000 enter the church each year. Our numbers should be growing by 2,000 per year.
- As many as 5,000 Catholics are “leaving” the Church – OR – not re-engaging in the Church after high school or college.



# OUR CATHOLIC POPULATION IS AGING RESULTING IN FEWER YOUNG PEOPLE

## The Landscape in the United States

- In the last decade, the percentage of the adult population claiming no religious affiliation (the “nones”) grew from 17% to 26%.
- In the last decade, the percentage of the millennial population claiming no religious affiliation grew from 27% to 40%.

## The Landscape in the Archdiocese of St. Louis

Our baptism and marriage trends reflect the national landscape, as they are half of what they were 20 years ago.





# WEEKLY SUNDAY MASS ATTENDANCE CONTINUES TO DECLINE

- Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Mass attendance was declining between 0.5% to 1% per year.
- Mass attendance hit a record low in October 2020 which is attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- While Mass attendance in October 2021 showed a significant increase from 2020, it was still 25% lower than Mass attendance in October 2019.
- In 2019, only 33% of our pews were occupied during the typical weekend Mass. By 2021, only 25% of our pews were occupied during the typical weekend Mass.



# FEWER BAPTISMS HAVE RESULTED IN FEWER CHILDREN IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS AND PSR

- Though we educate a higher percentage of children in our Catholic schools than nearly any other diocese (37%), enrollment continues to decline.
- During the last decade, PSR enrollment has declined faster than day school enrollment.
- Our current model of Catholic elementary schools cannot continue.
  - Only 40-50% of our elementary school children live in the boundaries of their parish school.
  - The cost to educate our students continues to outpace tuition increases.
  - Parish investment in our schools continues to absorb an increasing percentage of parish funds available to support other parish ministries.



# OUR PRIESTS ARE AGING

- 35% of our diocesan priests (74 priests) serving in parishes are 65 years of age or older.
- These 74 priests could retire in the next 10 years.
- Though priests' retirement age is 75, the average of retirement for our diocesan priests has been 71.
- By 2026, we will have fewer diocesan priests to serve in parishes than the number of parishes we have.
- Our largest parishes will still need to be served by 2-3 priests.



\* Excluding retired priests resident in parishes



# OUR FINITE RESOURCES NEED TO BE REALIGNED TO ENABLE VIBRANT MINISTRY



Number of Priests *	49	46	38	27	50
Ratio of Parishioners to Priests	619	1,416	1,996	2,704	3,411

\* Includes diocesan and religious order priests





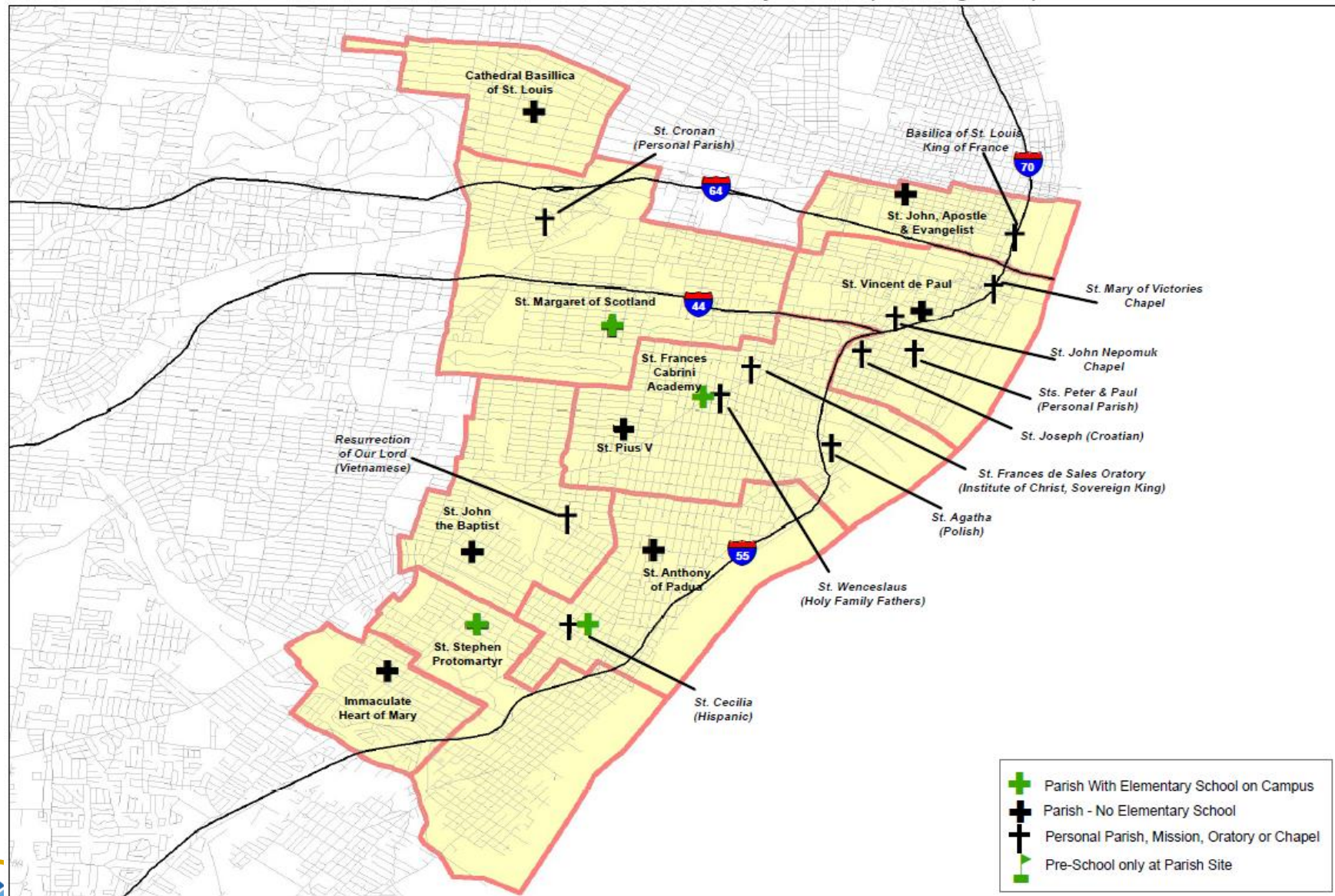
# ALL THINGS NEW

---

STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

OUR PLANNING AREA  
PLANNING AREA #3

# OUR TERRITORY FOR EVANGELIZATION





## ABOUT OUR PLANNING AREA

- The planning area is in St. Louis City. The geography of this area is defined by three Interstates (64, 44 and 70), the Mississippi River and the St. Louis County border at the southern boundary.
- Located in the South City deanery. There are 17 parishes (9 territorial and 8 personal), two chapels, and one oratory. Four elementary schools are in this planning area. Currently there are 15 diocesan and 14 order priests assigned to this group.
- Clusters of parishes and church buildings are a short distance from each other.



# OUR PLANNING AREA IS VERY DIVERSE AND INCREASING IN IMMIGRANT POPULATIONS

- After declining for several decades, total population in the planning area in the 2020 census was up 1% from 2010.
- The racial/ethnic profile of this area reflects a growing Hispanic population (now 7%), a stable black population (34% - which includes African immigrants), a stable white population (49% - which includes Bosnians), and a growing Asian population.
- As the population has become increasingly diverse, now only 10% of the population is registered Catholic, which is lower than the Diocesan average of 18%.
- With the number of personal parishes and chapels, a significant number of Catholics live outside the planning area.
- Median household income in the area is \$46,795 which is below the archdiocesan average of \$60,700.



# OUR PLANNING AREA

## DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

(U.S. Census Data)	1990	2000	2010	2020
Population	154,547	145,597	136,115	137,855
Percent Change		-6%	-7%	1%
Households	68,970	62,976	62,553	67,189
Percent Change		-9%	-1%	7%
Population				
White	116,870	78,878	71,134	67,954
Percent of Total	76%	54%	52%	49%
Black	33,423	55,388	51,442	46,273
Percent of Total	22%	38%	38%	34%
Other/Multi-Race	4,254	11,331	13,540	23,628
Percent of Total	3%	8%	10%	17%
Hispanic (not a race)	3,264	4,621	7,312	10,193
Percent of Total	2%	3%	5%	7%
% of Population Age 55+	24%	18%	20%	23%

### 2020 Data

% of Households - Renters 60%

% of Households - Single Person Living Alone 45%

#### Median Household Income

Planning Area \$ 46,795

Archdiocese \$ 60,700

### 2021 Data

% of Population Registered Catholic

Planning Area 10%

Archdiocese 18%

No. of Catholic School Children in Planning Area 994

### 2017-2021 (Five-Year Average)

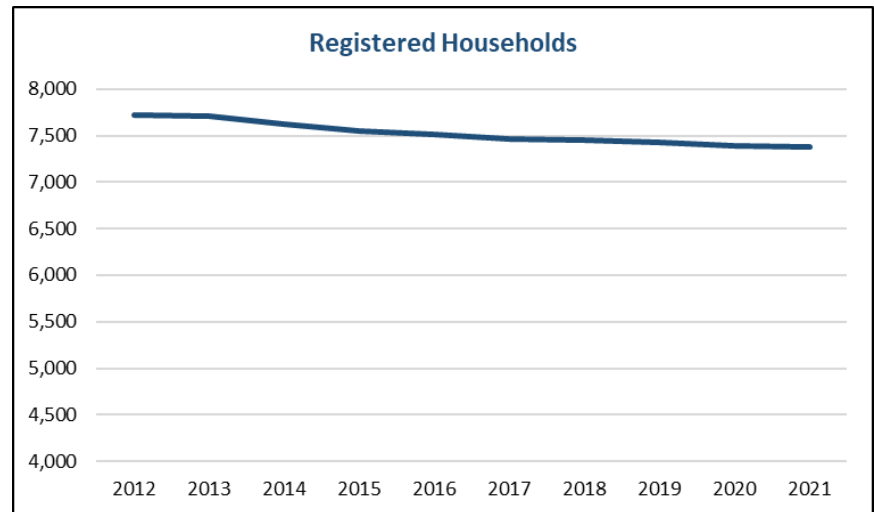
% 8th Grade Students to Catholic High Schools 84%



# OUR PLANNING AREA SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

## REGISTERED HOUSEHOLDS

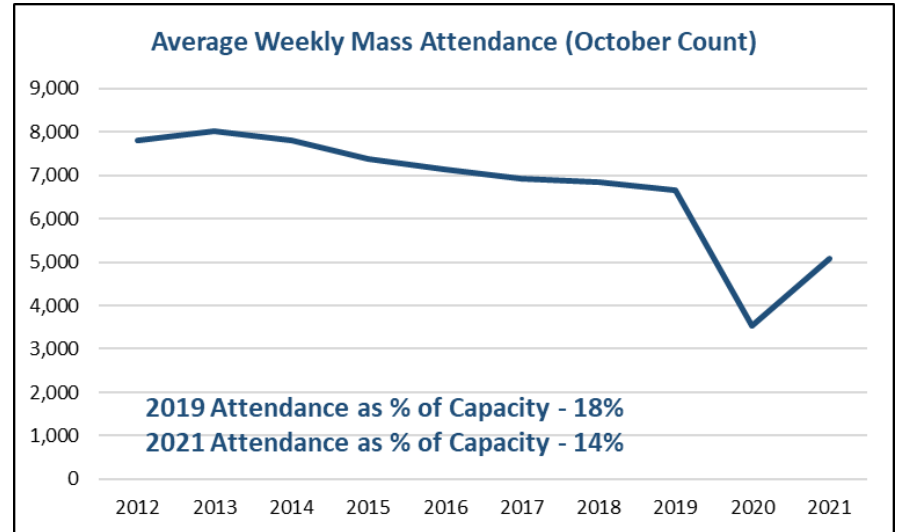
- Registered households in the planning area declined by 4% during the past decade, compared to a decline of 7% for the diocese.



# OUR PLANNING AREA SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

## MASS ATTENDANCE

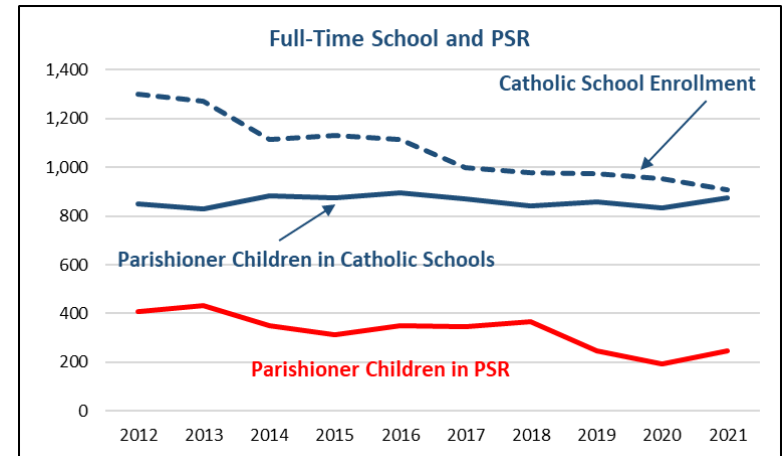
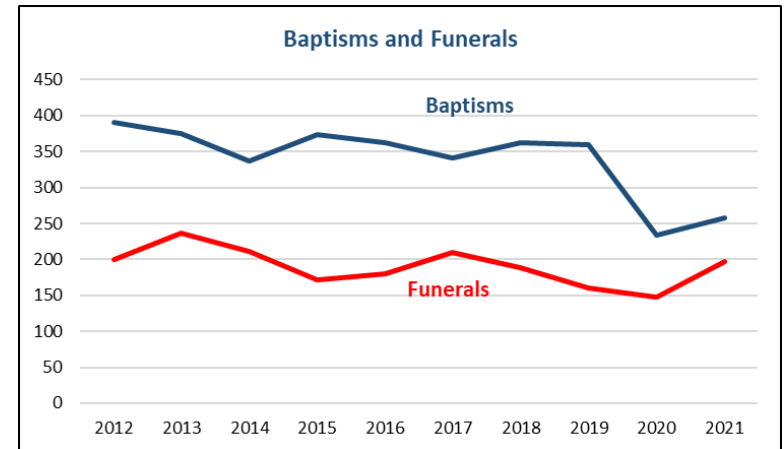
- Mass attendance declined 25% during the decade, compared to a 30% decline for the archdiocese.
- Mass attendance as a percent of capacity was well below the Archdiocesan average of 35% in 2019 and 25% in 2021, reflecting in part the large churches in this planning area.



# OUR PLANNING AREA SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

## BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, & K-8 FORMATION

- Baptisms have tracked higher than funerals, though baptisms have declined with the impact of COVID in last two years
- The Catholics of this planning area have a strong preference for Catholic day schools over PSR.
- Catholic school enrollment has declined as 3 schools in the planning area closed during the past decade. However, Catholic children have continued to attend schools at a stable rate.





# OUR PLANNING AREA

## MINISTRY TRENDS

	Registered Parishioner Households		Number of Catholics	Weekend Mass Attendance		Church Capacity	Baptisms	Funerals	Parishioner Children in:	
							Five Year Average 2017-2021		Catholic Schools (Include Privates)	Traditional PSR
	2011	2021	2021	2019	2021				2021-22	2021-22
Basilica of St. Louis King of France	185	200	350	484	366	545	13	3	3	1
Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis	610	645	1,087	1,347	1,311	1,300	33	15	20	3
Immaculate Heart of Mary	780	430	930	370	250	700	11	27	14	2
Resurrection of Our Lord - Vietnamese	365	347	820	567	574	650	11	3	26	74
St. Agatha - Polish	123	173	440	147	113	650	5	3	0	0
St. Anthony of Padua	442	454	880	340	230	950	15	23	16	19
St. Cecilia - Hispanic	946	1,169	3,858	802	506	750	70	7	226	79
St. Cronan	245	270	635	162	114	225	2	2	2	15
St. Frances de Sales Oratory	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	900	23	4	16	1
St. John Nepomuk Chapel	96	61	83	54	57	580	4	2	0	1
St. John the Baptist	800	605	1,370	259	183	500	15	21	13	24
St. John, Apostle & Evangelist	77	58	102	70	41	400	4	2	4	0
St. Joseph - Croatian	382	445	1,095	222	148	400	6	6	11	1
St. Margaret of Scotland	632	873	2,650	505	390	600	47	9	299	2
St. Mary of Victories Chapel	47	48	87	61	71	400	2	1	0	0
St. Pius V	515	345	747	310	242	450	15	9	52	13
St. Stephen Protomartyr	700	510	1,160	341	160	400	15	21	134	5
St. Vincent de Paul	410	419	710	320	137	550	13	10	10	4
St. Wenceslaus	285	237	370	161	134	350	3	9	21	2
Sts. Peter & Paul	135	94	155	130	61	300	4	3	9	0
TOTAL	7,775	7,383	17,529	6,652	5,086		311	180	876	246



# OUR PLANNING AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT IS DECLINING

- The four elementary schools in this planning area have 906 children enrolled in Catholic elementary schools, down 19% from 5 years ago. Only one school has over 200 students.
- The Catholic schools in this area are very diverse, drawing students from a wide area, and drawing minority and non-Catholic students.
- The number of students going to Catholic elementary schools from the parishes in the planning area is 876.
- There were 246 students enrolled in PSR in 2021, down 30% from 5 years earlier. 153 of those students came from two personal parishes serving Hispanic and Vietnamese Catholics.



# OUR PLANNING AREA

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL TRENDS

	2021-22	2021-22	2021-22 vs 2016-17	2021-22	2021-22
	Enrollment (K-8)	Enrollment (Pre-K) PK 3-4 & PK 4-5	5 Year Percent Change in (K-8) Enrollment	% K-8 Students Registered in Parish	% K-8 Students Living in Parish Boundaries
St. Cecilia School and Academy	171	11	(9%)	87%	n/a
St. Margaret of Scotland	396	58	(4%)	68%	49%
St. Stephen Protomartyr	175	32	(24%)	70%	60%
St. Frances Cabrini Academy	164	0	(6%)	*	*
TOTAL (% Change includes schools that closed)	906	101	(19%)	n/a	n/a

\* School is sponsored by seven parishes





# ALL THINGS NEW

---

STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

OUR PARISH  
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL - ST. LOUIS CITY

## ABOUT OUR PARISH

- Historic St. Vincent de Paul parish was one of the original four parishes to be given parish boundaries when the original St. Louis parish at the Old Cathedral was divided. Established in 1844, the Vincentians have staffed the parish since its founding. St. Vincent opened a parish school, likely the second in the diocese, in 1845 which operated until 1969. Today, the parish is one of 7 that support St. Frances Cabrini Academy.
- The Vincentian outreach to the poor has made this parish a destination parish for Catholics interested in serving those less fortunate. The parish has a long standing relationship with the Vincentian parish of St. Catherine Laboure which supports St. Vincent de Paul parish with human and financial resources.
- With the South City restructuring in 2005, St. Vincent de Paul parish took over the territory of nearby Sts. Peter & Paul parish. Sts. Peter & Paul remained as a personal parish with a similar outreach to the poor as St. Vincent de Paul.
- This is a parish of just over 400 households. The historic and original parish church seats 550.



## ABOUT OUR PARISH

- In the historic Soulard and Lafayette Square areas, the neighborhood is attractive to a diverse population including many young people and those looking to live in or rehab old homes.
- The parish has been growing in membership as Catholics have sought out the social outreach ministry of the parish. Pre-COVID Mass attendance was strong and there are a sizeable number of young people as measured by baptisms and children in religious education.
- Declining offertory and overall revenues has put a strain on the parish's finances as reserves have been depleted.





# OUR PARISH AREA IS RACIALLY STABLE, BUT ATTRACTING YOUNG PEOPLE TO THE AREA

- The St. Vincent de Paul area encompasses two historic areas of the city: Soulard and Lafayette Square. These areas of historic homes, markets, bars, and restaurants has become a destination for rehabbers and others who want to live in century homes.
- For that reason, the demographics of the area have been very stable with the percent white and black remaining stable at about 55% and 40% for the last 3 decades. This is also an area with a young demographic as 30% of the population is between the ages of 25 and 34.
- Median household income of \$53,800, which is below the Archdiocesan average of \$60,700. However, median household income has difficulty describing this area where 70% of households are renters and 38% of homes are valued above \$300,000.
- The percent of the resident population that is Catholic is 5% well below that of the Archdiocese of 18%.



# OUR PARISH DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

(U.S. Census Data)	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2020</u>
Population	8,945	7,473	8,934	9,325
Percent Change		-16%	20%	4%
Households	3,995	3,705	4,614	4,989
Percent Change		-7%	25%	8%
Population				
White	4,754	3,893	4,885	5,101
Percent of Total	53%	52%	55%	55%
Black	4,103	3,376	3,685	3,466
Percent of Total	46%	45%	41%	37%
Other/Multi-Race	88	204	364	758
Percent of Total	1%	3%	4%	8%
Hispanic (not a race)	104	110	180	277
Percent of Total	1%	1%	2%	3%
% of Population Age 55+	16%	14%	18%	21%

## 2020 Data

% of Households - Renters 70%

% of Households - Single Person Living Alone 49%

## Median Household Income

Parish Area \$53,760

Archdiocese \$60,700

## 2021 Data

% of Population Registered Catholic

Parish Area 5%

Archdiocese 18%

No. of Catholic School Children in Parish Area 56

## 2017-2021 (Five-Year Average)

% 8th Grade Students to Catholic High Schools n/a

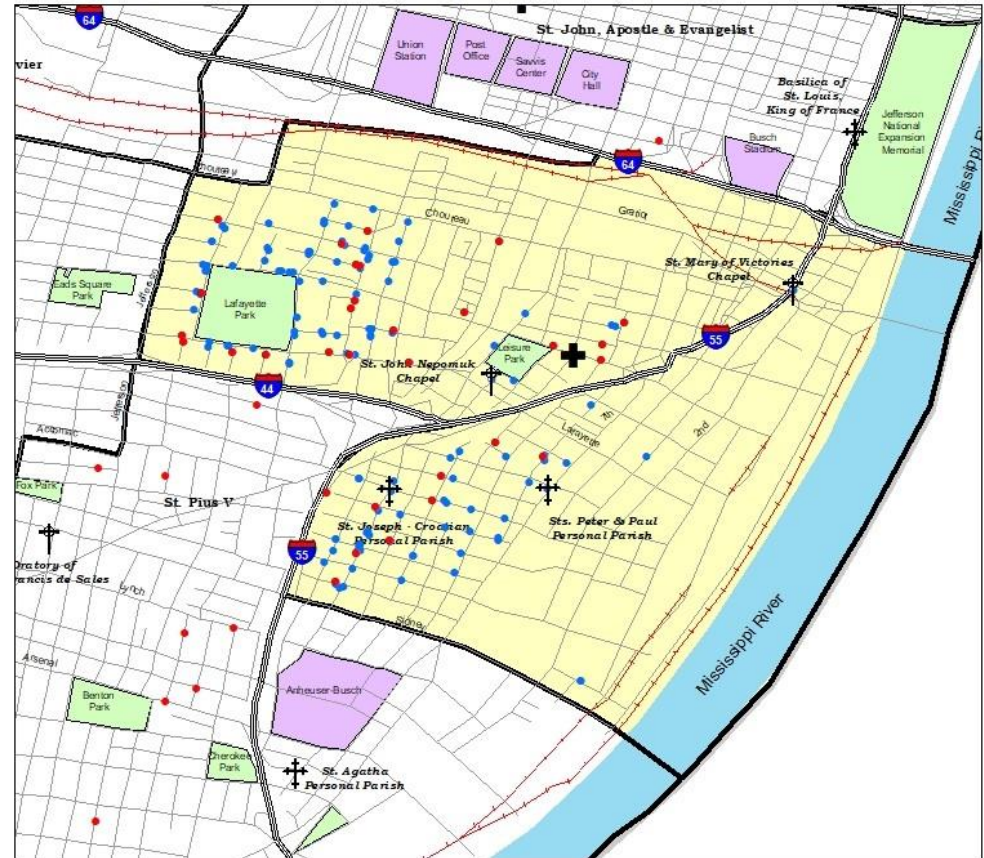


# WHERE OUR PARISHIONERS & CATHOLICS LIVE

- Red dots are parishioner households; blue dots are Catholic households in the boundaries that are registered at a different parish.
- St. Vincent de Paul is an “intentional” parish as only 10% of parishioners live in the boundaries. Catholics from all over the City and County come to worship and serve at St. Vincent de Paul parish.
- And only 20% of Catholics within the boundaries are parishioners with St. Margaret of Scotland a destination for those looking for a parish with a school and nearby Sts. Peter & Paul remains a destination for those looking for a similar parish to St. Vincent de Paul.

## St. Vincent de Paul - St. Louis 2021

10 Percent of parishioner households live within the parish boundaries  
20 Percent of Catholic households living within the parish boundaries are parishioners



• Parishioner Households

• Catholic households living in parish boundaries that are members of another parish

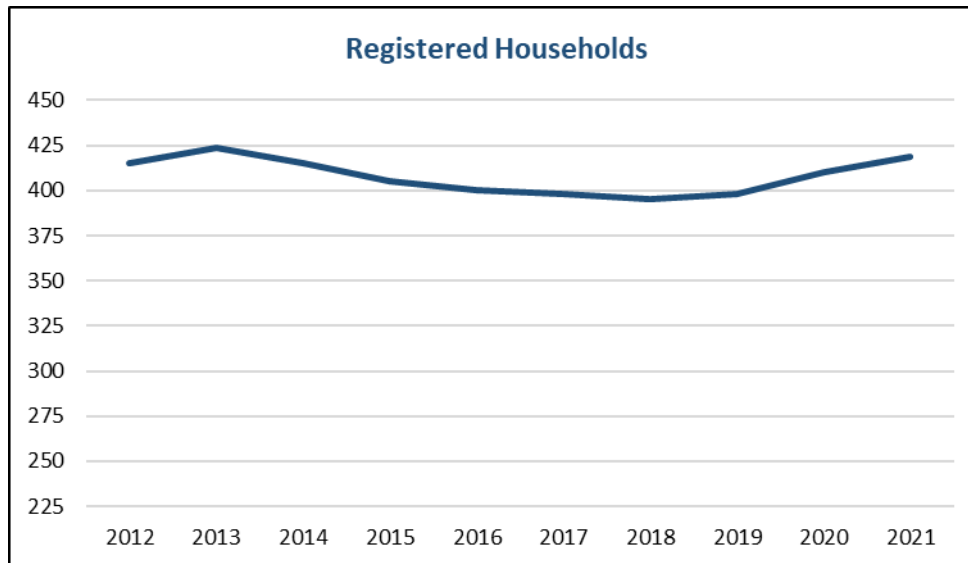
Residence of Parishioners			Parish membership of households in parish boundaries		
<b>St. Vincent de Paul</b>	32	10%	<b>St. Vincent de Paul</b>	32	20%
Illinois (St. Louis Metro Area)	18		St. Margaret of Scotland	34	
St. Pius V	15		Sts. Peter and Paul	15	
St. John the Baptist	12		St. Francis Xavier	10	
Other	251		Other	70	
<b>Total</b>	<b>328</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>161</b>	



# OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

## REGISTERED HOUSEHOLDS

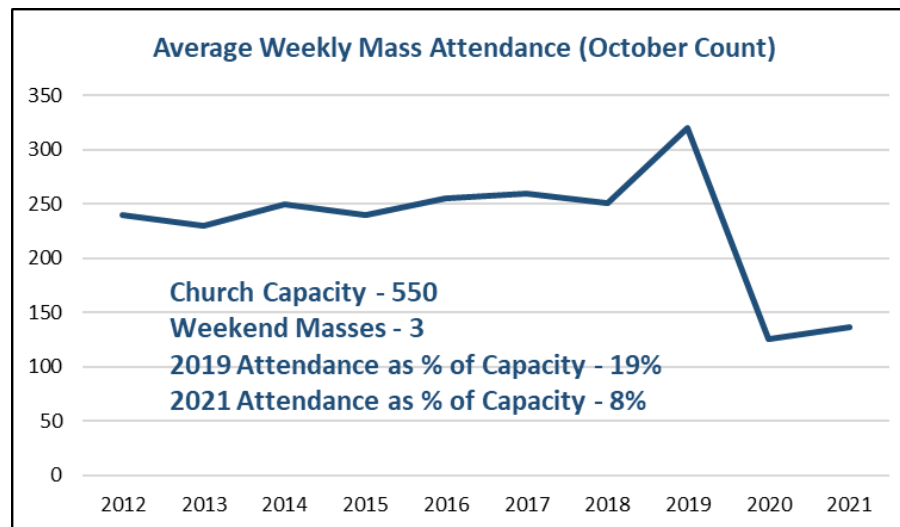
- The parish has had very stable membership and in fact has shown some growth in the last couple years.



# OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

## MASS ATTENDANCE

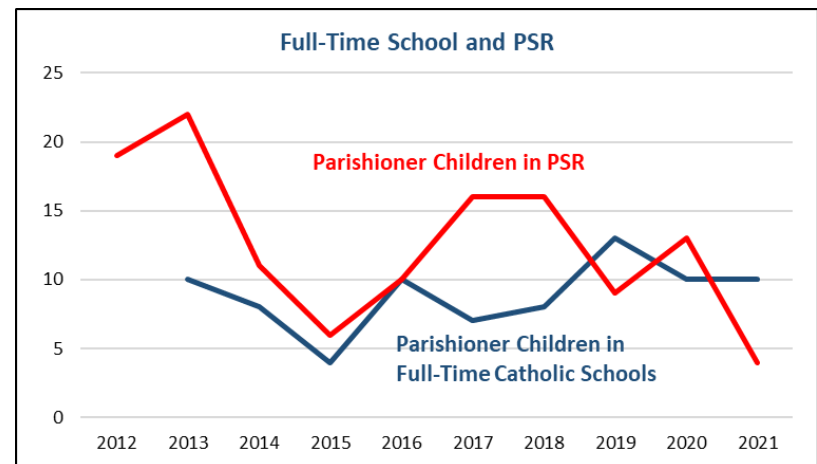
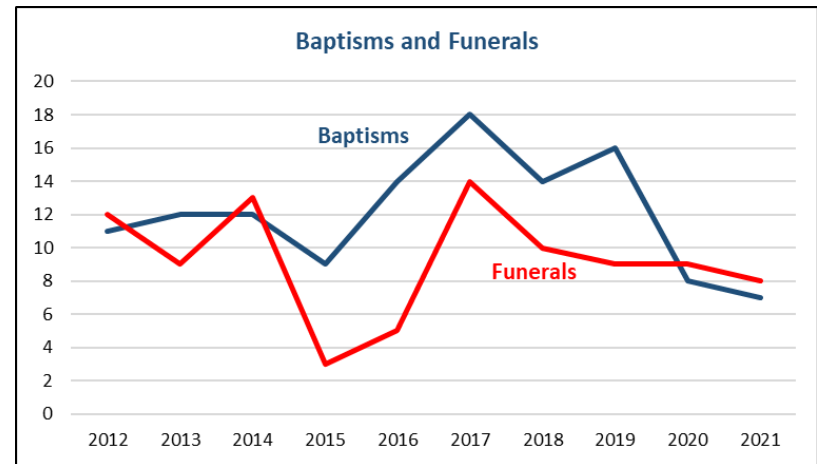
- Unlike most parishes, Pre-COVID Mass attendance was actually growing.
- Mass attendance as percent of capacity is well below the archdiocesan average of 33% in 2019 and 25% in 2021.
- Pre-COVID Mass attendance as percent of registered parishioners at 45% was well above the archdiocesan average of 27-29%.



# OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

## BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, & K-8 RELIGIOUS FORMATION

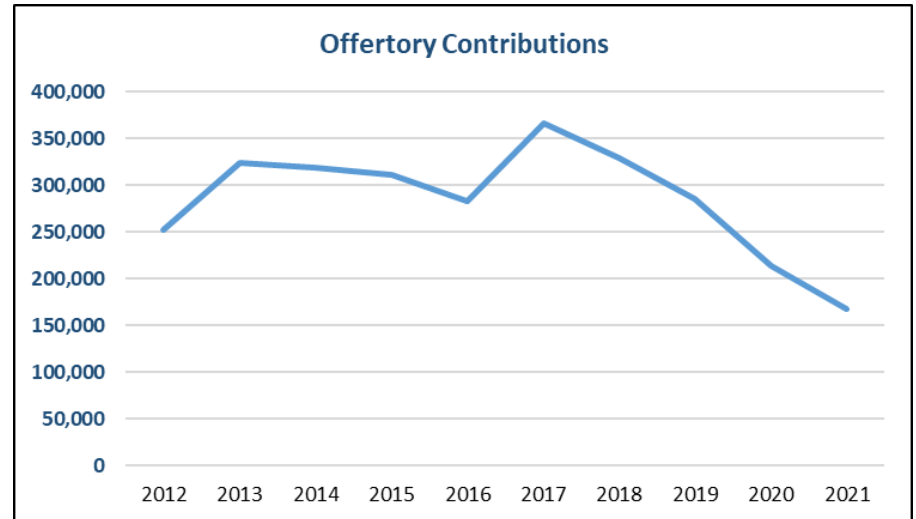
- For an urban parish, there has been a stable number of baptisms and funerals.
- There are a fairly consistent number of children in Catholic schools, with about half of the parishioner children attending St. Frances Cabrini Academy.
- The parish has its own PSR and also has students at the South City regional PSR at St. John the Baptist parish.



# OUR PARISH FINANCIAL TRENDS

## OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

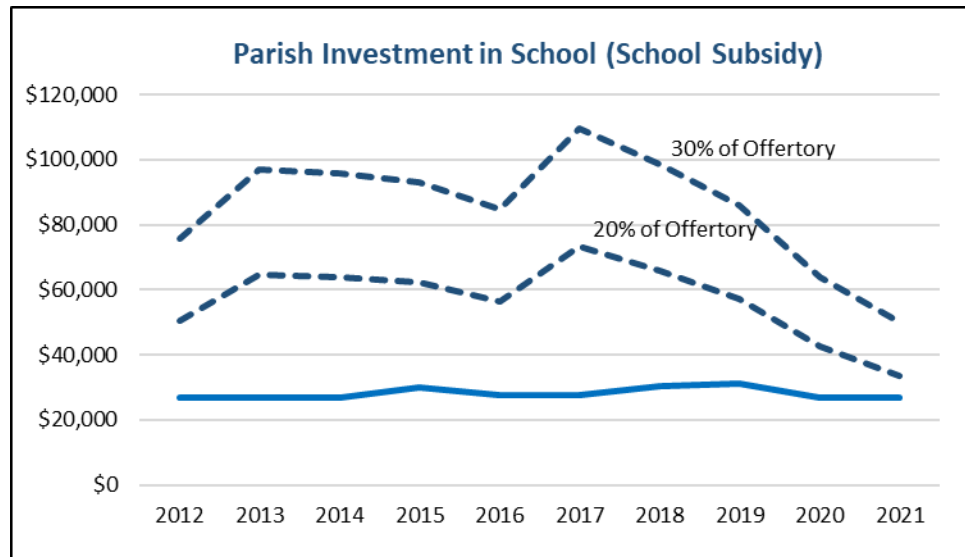
- Offertory contributions have been on a decline in the last five years.



# OUR PARISH FINANCIAL TRENDS

## INVESTMENT IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

- As one of the sponsors of St. Frances Cabrini Academy, the parish has made consistent contributions to the support of the school.





# OUR PARISH FINANCIAL TRENDS

## PARISH FINANCIAL CONDITION

- Though offertory provides less than half of parish revenue, the decline in offertory has been part of the decline in parish revenue. With expenses outpacing revenue, there are no more reserves in the parish.

